

2. Defendant MetLife Group, Inc. was served with the Citation and Plaintiff's Original Petition (the "Petition") by Certified Mail on July 5, 2016, postmarked June 30, 2016, through its registered agent, CT Corporation. True and correct copies of the Citation and the Petition are attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

3. MetLife has not filed an answer in this action.

4. This Notice of Removal is timely filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b) in that it is filed within thirty days of service of the Petition and the Citation on MetLife Group, Inc.

DIVERSITY JURISDICTION

5. By this action, Plaintiffs seek to recover life insurance benefits in the amount of \$273,000 under a Group Universal Life Insurance Policy¹, Group No. 98020, issued by MetLife, not MetLife Group, Inc. The deceased, Richard H. Boyd, a/k/a Richard H. Botz, obtained coverage under the GUL Policy through his employer, Bechtel Corporation. (Petition, p. 2, ¶9).

6. This court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because it is a civil action where the amount in controversy exceeds the sum of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs and is between citizens of different states.

7. As set out in the Petition, Plaintiff Wesley E. Wright resides in Harris County, Texas and Plaintiff Ellen A. Lloyd resides in Wisconsin. (Petition, p. 1, ¶¶2-3). MetLife is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business in New York, New York. MetLife Group, Inc. is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business in New York, New York.

¹ The amount of benefit payable under the GUL Policy is \$272,773 because a premium payment was owed.

REQUIREMENTS OF 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a) AND (C) ARE MET

8. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), copies of the Citation and the Petition served on MetLife are attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. Further, pursuant to Local Rule 81, an index of matters being filed is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, a copy of the docket sheet from the State Court Action is attached as **Exhibit C**, and a complete list of attorneys involved in the State Court Action with bar numbers, address, telephone number and party represented is attached as **Exhibit D**.

9. Plaintiffs have not made a jury demand.

10. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), written notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal will be filed in the 333rd Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas and provided to Plaintiff's counsel as required by law.

WHEREFORE, Defendant Metropolitan Life Insurance Company removes the State Court Action to this Court.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Linda G. Moore

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ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE
COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Notice of Removal was forwarded on this 25th day of July, 2016 by certified mail to Plaintiff's counsel as follows:

Joshua R. Flores
Sarah Patel Pacheco
David A. Polsinelli
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Houston, TX 77010

VIA CMRRR 7014 2120 0001 5445 8763

/s/ Linda G. Moore

Linda G. Moore